

SUMMARY of COMMENTS
2013 DelDOT Capital Transportation Program Hearings
Held September 23, 24 and 26, 2013

Thank you for your interest in the Capital Transportation Program (CTP) hearings sponsored by the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) and the Council on Transportation (COT).

DelDOT received publicly recorded testimony at the hearings, as well as letters submitted before and after the hearing dates. Below is a summary of the issues raised during these hearings. Where feasible, individual responses have been completed by our staff.

Comments gathered as a result of the CTP Hearings will be used to inform decisions on changes to the Proposed FY15-20 Capital Transportation Program. The Council on Transportation (COT) may make priority changes to the proposed CTP in an open meeting by documenting the reasons and justifications for the changes, using the approved priority formula-based process adopted by the County. Final approval and adoption of the CTP by the COT must occur by March 1 of each year. The proposed work plan and budget will be discussed at the Bond Bill committee hearings, and presented to the General Assembly for consideration prior to June 30, 2014.

Again, we appreciate your involvement in transportation issues and hope that you will continue to be active in identifying transportation solutions in the future.

KENT COUNTY - September 23, 2013 (33 Attendees Signed-In)

Proposed SR 1 South Grade Separated Intersection Project – Significant feedback in support of keeping the project on its originally scheduled timeline, especially in light of the forthcoming Kent County Regional Sports Complex. Comments were received from all Kent County legislators; Brooks Banta, President Kent County Levy Court and other Commissioners; Mike Petit de Mange, County Administrator; the Kent County Tourism Board of Directors and Staff; the Downtown Dover Partnership; the United Way of Delaware; several local businesses; community organizations and numerous community members. To date, only one comment in favor of delaying the project was received.

US Route 13 Duck Creek to SR 1 Project – Several comments received (including the Smyrna Town Manager and Town Council; Rep. William Carson; Senator Bruce Ennis) requesting the design funding for this project be moved from FY2018 to FY2015.

Camden Bypass Connector – The Camden Mayor and Town Manager each expressed frustration regarding the Camden Bypass Connector status. This project is currently being added to the Dover/Kent MPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Based on the MPO ranking, the project may be included into the CTP in future years.

Woodlytown Road – Suggestion to re-align Woodlytown Road to be opposite McGinnis Pond Road for safety purposes. This project is not currently in the Dover/Kent MPO MTP.

Addition of Shoulders to Roadways – Specific areas of Irish Hill, Woodlytown and Peachtree Roads were recommended for the addition of shoulders to increase safety and multimodal aspects. These projects are currently in the MTP, however they are not in the proposed CTP.

Official Court Reporter Transcript: The following individuals provided official statements during the Public Hearing: Commissioner Kent Buckson; Mayor Carlton Carey; Camden Mayor W. G. Edmanson; Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce President, Judy Diogo. Each comment expressed concern for the proposed delay in constructing the South Frederica Grade Separated Intersection and its potential impact on the economy.

SUSSEX COUNTY - September 25, 2013 (14 Attendees Signed-In)

Multi-Modal/Safety Improvement Needs for Route One (Lewes/Rehoboth) – The overwhelming percentage of comments related to multi-modal and safety improvement requests for Route One in the beach area. Suggestions ranged from supporting additional crosswalks to building an overpass at Five-Points, and improved signal timing. Pedestrian safety weighed heavily on the minds of those who responded. DelDOT currently has a project to improve pedestrian facilities in this corridor. In addition, a Pedestrian Safety Task Force has been created to determine the actual scope of these improvements.

Route 9 / Left Turn Issues – Concerns were also expressed for safety issues when traveling on Route 9. One suggestion was the addition of Left Turn Lanes and/or the installation of reflective barriers to deter vehicles passing on the right shoulder. We

currently have safety projects that will address some of these concerns along Route 9 at Dairy Farm Road, Fisher/Hudson Road, and Route 30. A separate project is taking place at the intersection of Route 9 and Route 5.

Statewide Transit – A request was made for the implementation of DART Transit services year-round from Wilmington to Rehoboth Beach.

**** Note:** The majority of comments were received via Sussex County Government's electronic CTP suggestion form. Some pertained to county matters (proposed RV Park) while others were specific in nature and can most likely be addressed by our district maintenance forces (overgrown hedges blocking sight at the Robinsville Road intersection.)

The County submitted their 2015-2020 Capital Transportation Program Request (copy attached), highlighting priority items: SR 1 Improvements; Sussex County Airport; Park Avenue/US 9 Truck Route; East-West Improvements (SR 24, SR 26, Routes 404/9); Bicycling/Walking Trails; North-South Highway Improvements; Local Roads; Intersections, Signage & Signalization; Alternative Transportation.

NEW CASTLE COUNTY - September 26, 2013 (6 Attendees Signed-In)

Funding Pool for Bike/Pedestrian Projects – The Delaware Bike Council proposed the reestablishment of funding pools for bicycle and pedestrian projects, with the stated objective of using funds to fill existing gaps in the system.